



Robert Greene Sterne Edward J. Kessler Jorge A. Goldstein David K.S. Cornwell Robert W. Esmond Tracy-Gene G. Durkin Michele A. Cimbala Michael B. Ray Robert E. Sokohl Eric K. Steffe Michael Q. Lee Steven R. Ludwig John M. Covert Linda E. Alcorn Robert C. Millonig Donald J. Featherstone Timothy J. Shea, Jr Michael V. Messinger

Judith U. Kim Patrick E. Garrett Jeffrey T. Helvey Heidi L. Kraus Eldora L. Ellison Thomas C. Fiala Donald R. Banowit Peter A. Jackman Jeffrey S. Weaver Kendrick P. Patterson Vincent L. Capuano Brian J. Del Buono Virgil Lee Beaston Theodore A. Wood Joseph S. Ostroff Rae Lynn P. Guest

Daniel A. Klein Jason D. Eisenberg Michael D. Specht Tracy L. Muller Jon E. Wriaht LuAnne M. DeSantis Ann E. Summerfield Helene C. Carlson Cynthia M. Bouchez Timothy A. Doyle Gaby L. Longsworth Lori A. Gordon Nicole D. Dretar Ted J. Ebersole Laura A. Vogel Bryan S. Wade Aaron L. Schwartz Shannon A. Carroll*

Wesley W. Jones* Matthew E. Kelley Michelle K. Holoubek+ Marsha A. Rose+ Registered Patent Agents Karen R. Markowicz Nancy J. Leith Matthew J. Dowd Katrina Yujian Pei Quach Bryan L. Skelton Robert A. Schwartzman Teresa A. Colella Victoria S. Rutherford Simon J. Elliott Julie A. Heider Mita Mukherier Scott M. Woodhouse

Liliana Di Nola-Baron Peter A. Socarras Jeffrey Mills Danielle L. Letting

> Of Counsel Kenneth C. Bass III Marvin C. Guthrie

*Admitted only in Maryland Admitted only in Virginia Practice Limited to Federal Agencies

December 19, 2005

WRITER'S DIRECT NUMBER: (202) 772-8625 **INTERNET ADDRESS:** ESTEFFE@SKGF.COM

Art Unit 1644

Examiner: Ronald B. Schwadron

Attn: Mail Stop Amendment

Commissioner for Patents PO Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Re:

U.S. Utility Patent Application

Application No. 09/458,302; Filed: December 10, 1999

Inducing Cellular Immune Responses to Carcinoembryonic Antigen Using Peptide and Nucleic Acid Compositions

Inventors:

FIKES et al.

Our Ref:

2060.0080005/EKS/PAC

Sir:

Transmitted herewith for appropriate action are the following documents:

- 1. Amendment and Reply Under 37 C.F.R. § 1.111; and
- 2. Return postcard.

It is respectfully requested that the attached postcard be stamped with the date of filing of these documents, and that it be returned to our courier. In the event that extensions of time are necessary to prevent abandonment of this patent application, then such extensions of time are hereby petitioned.

The U.S. Patent and Trademark Office is hereby authorized to charge any fee deficiency. or credit any overpayment, to our Deposit Account No. 19-0036.

Respectfully submitted,

STERNE, KESSLER, GOLDSTEIN & FOX P.L.L.C.

Eric K. Steffe

Attorney for Applicants Registration No. 36,688

EKS/PAC:dbi Enclosures

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Ref No.54,325

Sterne, Kessler, Goldstein & Fox P.L.L.c. : 1100 New York Avenue, NW : Washington, DC 20005 : 202.371.2600 f 202.371.2540 : www.skgf.com

DEC 19 2005 (S)

THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of:

FIKES et al.

Appl. No.: 09/458,302

Filed: December 10, 1999

For: Inducing Cellular Immune

Responses to Carcinoembryonic Antigen Using Peptide and Nucleic

Acid Compositions

Confirmation No.: 8701

Art Unit: 1644

Examiner: Ronald B. Schwadron

Atty. Docket: 2060.0080005/EKS/PAC

Amendment and Reply Under 37 C.F.R. § 1.111

Mail Stop Amendment

Commissioner for Patents PO Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

In reply to the Office Action dated March 1, 2005 and the Notice of Non-Compliant Amendment dated November 17, 2005, Applicants submit the following Amendment and Remarks.

Amendments to the Specification begin on page 3 of this paper.

Amendments to the Claims are reflected in the Listing of Claims which begins on page 6 of this paper.

Remarks begin on page 9 of this paper.

It is not believed that extensions of time or fees for net addition of claims are required beyond those that may otherwise be provided for in documents accompanying this paper. However, if additional extensions of time are necessary to prevent abandonment of this application, then such extensions of time are hereby petitioned under 37 C.F.R. § 1.136(a), and any fees required therefor (including fees for net

addition of claims) are hereby authorized to be charged to our Deposit Account No. 19-0036.